Banned Books List: Top 10 Most Challenged Books of 2019

The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom tracked 377 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2019. Of the 566 books that were targeted, here are the most challenged, along with the reasons cited for censoring the books:

BOOK COVER

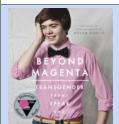
TITLE, CALL NUMBER & BRIEF DESCRIPTION



GEORGE

Author: Alex Gino Call Number: J GINO

Reasons: challenged, banned, restricted, and hidden to avoid controversy; for LGBTQIA+ content and a transgender character; because schools and libraries should not "put books in a child's hand that require discussion"; for sexual references; and for conflicting with a religious viewpoint and "traditional family structure"



BEYOND MAGENTA: TRANSGENDERED TEENS SPEAK OUT

Author: Susan Kuklin Call Number: 306.768 KUK

Reasons: challenged for LGBTQIA+ content, for "its effect on any young people who would read

it," and for concerns that it was sexually explicit and biased

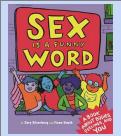


A DAY IN THE LIFE OF MARLON BUNDO

Author: Jill Twiss

Call Number: Digital eBook

Reasons: Challenged and vandalized for LGBTQIA+ content and political viewpoints, for concerns that it is "designed to pollute the morals of its readers," and for not including a content warning



SEX IS A FUNNY WORD

Author: Cory Silverberg

Call Number: eBook on Hoopla

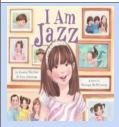
Reasons: Challenged, banned, and relocated for LGBTQIA+ content; for discussing gender identity and sex education; and for concerns that the title and illustrations were "inappropriate"



PRINCE & KNIGHT Author: Daniel Haack

Call Number: Not Housed

Reasons: Challenged and restricted for featuring a gay marriage and LGBTQIA+ content; for being "a deliberate attempt to indoctrinate young children" with the potential to cause confusion, curiosity, and gender dysphoria; and for conflicting with a religious viewpoint



I AM JAZZ

Author: Jazz Jennings

Call Number: J 306.768 HER

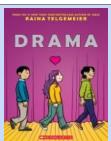
Reasons: Challenged and restricted for featuring a gay marriage and LGBTQIA+ content; for being "a deliberate attempt to indoctrinate young children" with the potential to cause confusion, curiosity, and gender dysphoria; and for conflicting with a religious viewpoint



THE HANDMAID'S TALE

Author: Margaret Atwood Call Number: F ATWOOD

Reasons: Banned and challenged for profanity and for "vulgarity and sexual overtones"



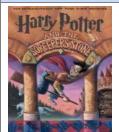
DRAMA

Author: Raina Telgemeier

Call Number: GN J TELGEMEIER

Reasons: Challenged for LGBTQIA+ content and for concerns that it goes against "family

values/morals"



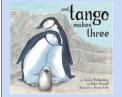
HARRY POTTER SERIES

Author: J.K. Rowling

Call Number: F MORRISON

Reasons: Banned and forbidden from discussion for referring to magic and witchcraft, for

containing actual curses and spells, and for characters that use "nefarious means" to attain goals



AND TANGO MAKES THREE

Author: Justin Ricahrdson & Peter Parnell

Reason: Challenged and relocated for LGBTQIA+ content